

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Madam President and members, I probably will support this amendment and I'll tell you why. I...it's rather interesting that when federal funds run out the need for that good purpose and cause sometimes apparently runs out as well at the state level and also at the county and the city level and school district level as well. But there are new programs that are developed, it seems to me, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, quite a bit at all kinds of different levels--the Highway Patrol, could be the Department of Social Services, the Health Department and even through research at the university. But it's rather interesting when those grant monies seem to run out, whether they be federal money or grant money from private institutions, somehow or another those agencies find the money to continue those programs and we seem to draw the line when it comes to programs like this. This \$60,000 for this good program has very little to do with research. What it has to do though is to maintain a very important and necessary effort that is, in the State of Nebraska, can best be accomplished across county lines and by the state. Not sure how much we're going to be able to wind up for it, being able to afford to spend, but I would agree that we do trip over dollars saving pennies and until we develop some kind of a sense here in the Legislature and even on our Appropriations Committee where we recognize new programs, building new buildings we don't even develop the money to maintain them, develop projects for research, whatever else it is, without guarantees that it's going to last forever, but somehow or another we seem to find the money to continue those programs and it never gets to the floor. Isn't that interesting? Maybe even hundreds of millions of dollars worth of spending, but when it comes to 60,000 bucks it's going to break our back. Just doesn't seem to be consistent to me and I think maybe what we need, even in our Appropriations Committee, is a study to look at all new programs that have developed over the last five years, the source of those funds and where that money is going and how many of those programs were, in fact, considered and, in fact, continued and then I would feel better, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, being able to vote against an amendment like Cap Dierks offers us. Until that happens, though, and it hasn't happened yet, I'm going to have to support Cap on this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Schimek.